



## **VIRGINIA RECYCLING MARKETS DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL**

**April 13, 2011**

### **Draft Minutes**

**10:00 AM**

**George Washington Regional Commission  
Fredericksburg, VA**

#### **1. Welcome and Introductions:**

Chairman Byrnes noted that there was not yet a quorum and began the meeting discussing informational items. By 10:30 several additional members had arrived and the Chairman officially called the meeting to order at that time. Those who were present for all or some of the meeting are noted below

<b>RMDC</b>	<b>Representing</b>	<b>Absent RMDC</b>	
Kevin Byrnes- <b>Chair</b>	Urban PDC	VACANT	Oil Industry
Tom Smith	VACO	VACANT	VML
J. Wiley-Segovia	Citizen at-large	VACANT	Aluminum Industry
J. Kemper Garret	Glass Industry	Bernard Harris	Waste Industry
Michael Benedetto	Paper Industry	Toby Edwards	Rural PDC
Robert Broom	Composting Industry	Richard Lerner	Metal Industry
Christopher Embrose	Electronics	Jimmy Sisson	Recycling
John Kline	Tires	Philip Abraham	Plastics Industry
		William Vehrs	VDBA
<b>State Representatives</b>			
Brad Crawford	VDGS		
Steve Coe	VDEQ		
Bill Bailey	VDOT		
Rick Weeks	VDEQ		

#### **Visitors/guests**

Kate Vazquez – VRA, Fairfax Co	Alan Lassiter – Lassiter Consulting
Ann House, Owens -Illinois	Hunter Joseph – UMW Intern
Mike Smaha, Owens-Illinois	Emily Sherman, UMW Intern

#### **2. Announcements**

Chairman Byrnes continued through the informational items on the agenda to summarize the impact of HB 2520 and SB 1471. The VRMDC will no longer officially exist as of June 30, 2011. The Council discussed the need to continue the efforts for market development in Virginia, and possible partnerships with VRA. Ms. Vazquez indicated that the VRA Board is willing to work with the members to continue the market development efforts and welcomed ongoing discussion.

### **3. Old Business**

#### **a) SERDAC Economic Development Study**

Ms. Sherman and Chairman Byrnes reviewed the results of the SERDAC study and the positive economic impacts recycling is and could have in Virginia (copy attached). Of particular interest was the number of jobs recycling creates. Additional contact with some localities will be needed to complete the collection of the local real estate, personal property and machinery & tool taxes paid to local governments by recycling-based manufacturers in Virginia. Chairman Byrnes suggested the VRA may be able to assist in collecting the remaining information.

#### **b) Results of Statewide On-line Surveys**

Chairman Byrnes stated that they had only received 8 responses to the on-line survey request. The request went out to all recycling contacts who report to VDEQ for the 71 waste management planning units throughout Virginia. The council discussed other options to receive feedback, possibly through the annual reporting to VDEQ. Ms. Vazquez expressed interest in having VRA explore the continuation of the survey and getting the corporate marketing agents of recycling companies that work for waste management planning units to respond to the survey.

#### **c) Glass Beneficiation Project**

##### Market Analysis

Ms. Joseph made a PowerPoint presentation on the potential need and location of a glass beneficiation facility (copy attached). The conclusion was there is a sufficient recycled glass generated in Virginia to support a beneficiation facility. Transportation to a central location near the source of generation would be an important factor in the economic viability of a facility. The committee expressed its appreciation for the work by Ms. Joseph.

### **4. Approval of Agenda and Minutes**

Sufficient members had arrived at this point in the meeting to have a quorum. The Chair asked the committee members to review minutes of the January 5, 2011 meeting. A motion and second to approve the minutes was made, and the minutes were unanimously approved. The meeting continued with the introduction of the Owens-Illinois representatives.

#### **Old Business – c) Glass Beneficiation (Continued)**

##### Glass Recycling in Virginia

Ms. House briefly reviewed the use of recycled glass in two Virginia plants that manufacture new glass bottles. The glass must be clean and with minimum contamination to properly produce new bottles. All of the recycled glass is currently being shipped in from the Upper Midwest and Northeast. States in the northeast have taken steps to produce this clean glass, and most of it originates in States that have beverage container deposit

legislation, resulting in the recovery of clean glass. The two O-I plants in Virginia spend \$7.5 million each on glass cullet from out-of-state suppliers and another \$7.5 million each in freight costs to get the glass delivered to their 2 Virginia plants

Ms. House and the council discussed the reasons why recycled glass is imported from the northeast into Virginia, which included:

- Northeast states have deposit legislation (bottle bills)
- Operation of beneficiation plants
- Ban on taking crushed glass to landfills
- Higher landfill disposal fees

Ms. House indicated that Owens-Illinois would like to partner and work with State and local policy makers and the recycling industry in taking more recycled glass from Virginia into the Virginia plants. The council discussed some of the issues which need to be overcome to make this a reality in Virginia:

- Landfill disposal fees are much lower in Virginia than the northeast.
- Local landfills receive and use crushed glass for cover/roads and receive it at no or very low cost.
- Lack of government policies for creating this market (such as deposit legislation or bans on taking crushed glass to landfills)
- Lack of an economically viable beneficiation plant to process recycled glass to the standard required by the industry.

The council would like to see the industry work with government officials, refuse haulers, MRF operators and glass beneficiary plants to determine what is necessary to have glass from Virginia used to make new glass bottles at the Owens-Illinois plants. These discussions should continue with the future initiatives with SERDAC and VRA.

#### d) Rural Material Recovery Facility (MRF)

Mr. Edwards was planning on joining the meeting via telephone but was unable to participate in the discussion. Work is continuing on the potential siting and development of a regional rural MRF. Mr. Edwards will give a report update the council at its next meeting.

## **5. New Business**

The council discussed how to continue the efforts of market development after July 1. Chairman Byrnes will continue discussion with the VRA Board at its conference on May 10-11 on possibly transitioning these efforts under VRA. The council would like to keep VDEQ involved in these efforts.

Chairman Byrnes reminded council members of the VRA conference in May 10-11 and encouraged the council to be in attendance.

After discussion, it was decided that the next (and last) meeting of the council will be held on June 15, 2011 at the VDEQ's Piedmont Regional Office (if available) or an alternate location in Richmond.

**6. Public Comment/Adjournment**

Kate Vasquez expressed the desire to hold the next VRA Board meeting at the same location as the last VRMDC meeting to expedite the transition dialogue with the VRMDC.

Chairman Byrnes indicated he would make appropriate arrangements.

There were no additional comments from the public. The meeting adjourned at 12:10 PM.